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Images of the Pioneer Valley

a guide to our historic heritage



DOCUMENT
SECTION

GOVT. OF MASS.

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The long and rich history of the Pioneer Valley is evident in its settlement and development patterns, in its form of government and in its wealth of historic, well-preserved buildings, monuments and other cultural artifacts.

Reminders of our origins — of our history — are nowhere more evident than on the landscape, in our built environment. Physical manifestations, as disparate as . . .

- stately, tree-lined town greens
- Civil War cannon standing guard at town hall
- an old industrial complex reflected in the mill pond
- staid, white clapboard houses
- an iron truss bridge spanning the river
- great, whimsical Victorian mansions
- church steeples towering over the trees
- remnants of an old canal skirting the city

. . . all reflect the events, technologies, ideas and personages of times past.

These are the images of the Pioneer Valley

IDENTITY

A town is undeniably more than a collection of buildings. However the buildings and their appearance are the town's most obvious, identifiable and valuable feature. A well-maintained, architecturally distinctive building stock, evocative of a past era, presents a pleasing image to residents and visitors alike.



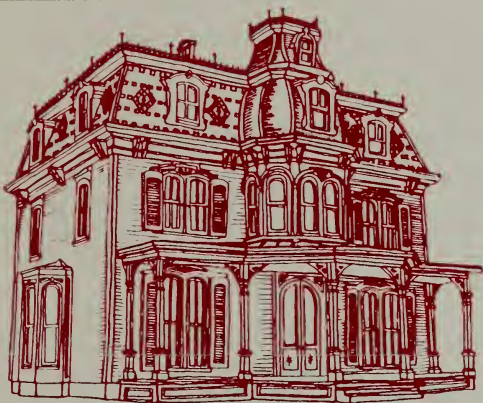
PROSPERITY

A community's existing building stock represents both monetary and energy savings. These structures were built at a time when materials, labor costs and interest rates were much lower than they are today. They could never be replaced for their original cost. The existent building stock is the cornerstone of the town's economic base.



COMMUNITY

Older buildings are usually located where buildings should be located: within reach of the people who will use them. They are accessible to the less mobile populations: the young, elderly, handicapped and non-automobile owners. The development of town centers has historically been on a pedestrian scale — people were able to walk from home to work, church, store, etc. This siting is the key factor to neighborhood pride and community involvement.



HISTORY

One can almost read the buildings like a book. They reflect such things as the age of the town, its early businesses and industries, its ethnic influences and its period of affluence.



BEAUTY

Retention and rehabilitation of historic structures enhances the aesthetic character of the town as well. The pleasing mix of old with new, elaborate with functional, venerable with contemporary, contributes to the uniqueness of each town. The art and pride of craftsmen of old come shining through.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Hampden and Hampshire Counties in western Massachusetts have a heritage rich in history and in historic structures. Over fifty individual buildings and hundreds of buildings in more than twenty-five historic districts have been recognized as especially significant, and have been honored by nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register is the Nation's official list of important cultural resources. It includes buildings, districts, sites, structures, and objects which retain their integrity and reflect some significant aspect of local, state or national history. These properties stand as proud reminders of the peoples and events of times past.



Owners of property listed in the National Register become eligible to apply for certain preservation grants and/or federal income tax credits. Listing in the National Register places no constraints on what owners may do to the interior or exterior of their property when using private funds.

Aside from some commercial and industrial properties, most National Register structures are private residences which are not open for public inspection. For the most part, these National Register houses should be enjoyed from a distance, with respect for the owners' privacy.

AGAWAM

CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE, 663 Main St

AMHERST

AMHERST RAILROAD STATION, Railroad St

CONKEY-STEVENSON HOUSE, 664 Main St

DICKINSON HISTORIC DISTRICT, Kellogg Ave, Main, Gray
& Lessey St

EMILY DICKINSON HOMESTEAD, 280 Main St

BELCHERTOWN

BELCHERTOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, Town
Common, South Main & Maple

WALKER-COLLINS HOUSE, 1 Stadler St

CHICOPEE

AMES MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 5-7 Springfield St

EDWARD BELLAMY HOUSE, 91-93 Church St

CHICOPEE CITY HALL, Market Square

DWIGHT MANUFACTURING COMPANY HOUSING DIS-
TRICT, Front, Depot, Dwight, Exchange & Chestnut

POLISH NATIONAL HOME, 136-144 Cabot St

VALENTINE SCHOOL, Grape & Elm St

CUMMINGTON

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT HOMESTEAD, Bryant Rd

EAST LONGMEADOW

ELIJAH BURT HOUSE, 201 Chestnut St

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LONGMEADOW,
7 Somers Rd

MERVIN PEASE HOUSE, 191 Pease Rd

GOSHEN

MOUNTAIN REST, Spruce Corners Rd

HADLEY

HADLEY CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, Russell & Middle St

PORTER-PHELPS-HUNTINGTON HOUSE, 130 River Dr

HAMPDEN

THORNTON W. BURGESS HOUSE, 789 Main St

HATFIELD

OLD MILL SITE HISTORIC DISTRICT, 48 & 50 Prospect St

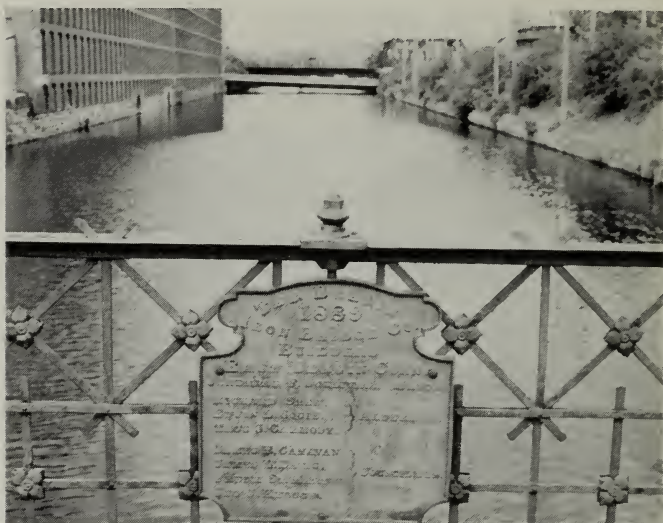
HOLYOKE

WISTARIAHURST, 283 Cabot St

CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 185-193 High St

HADLEY FALLS COMPANY HOUSING DISTRICT, Center,
North Canal, Grover & Lyman St

Images of the Pioneer Valley



HOLYOKE CANAL SYSTEM, Front, South & Connecticut River

HOLYOKE CITY HALL, 536 Dwight St

MAPLEWOOD HOTEL, 328-330 Maple St

LONGMEADOW

LONGMEADOW HISTORIC DISTRICT, Longmeadow Green

MIDDLEFIELD

MIDDLEFIELD-BECKET STONE ARCH RAILROAD BRIDGE DISTRICT, Along Westfield River in Middlefield, Chester & Becket



National Register of Historic Places

NORTHAMPTON

CALVIN COOLIDGE HOUSE, 19-21 Massasoit St

DIMMOCK ESTATE (GROVE HILL MANSION), Florence Rd
& Front St

DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, Hampton, Pearl,
Strong, Bedford & Elm St., MA 66 & RR tracks

MANSE, 54 Prospect St

SMITH ALUMNAE GYMNASIUM, Green St

PELHAM

PELHAM HILL CHURCH, Amherst Rd & Daniel Shays Hwy

PELHAM TOWN HALL HISTORIC DISTRICT, Amherst Rd

SOUTH HADLEY

WOODBIDGE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, Silver &
Woodbridge St

SPRINGFIELD

ALEXANDER HOUSE, 284 State St

AMES HILL/CRESCENT HILL DISTRICT, Central, Maple,
Mill, Pine, Crescent, Ames Hill & Maple Court

APREMONT TRIANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Pearl,
Hillman, Bridge & Chestnut St

BANGS BLOCK, 1119 Main St

BAYSTATE CORSET BLOCK, Dwight & Taylor St

BICYCLE CLUB BUILDING, 264-270 Worthington St

BURBACH BLOCK, 1113-1115 Main St

CARLTON HOUSE BLOCK, 9-13 Hampden St

CHAPIN NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, 1675-1677 Main St

COLONIAL BLOCK, 1139-1155 Main St

COURT SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, State, Broad-
way & Pyncheon St & City Hall Place

CUTLER AND PORTER BLOCK, 109 Lyman St

DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD RAILROAD DISTRICT,
Lyman, Main, Murray & Spring St

DRISCOLL'S BLOCK, 211-213 Worthington St

FIRST CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL, 50 Elm St

FITZGERALD'S STEARNS SQUARE BLOCK, 300-308 Bridge St

FOREST PARK HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT, Longhill,
Belmont & Washington

FRENCH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 33-37 Bliss St

FULLER BLOCK, 1531-1545 Main St

GUENTHER AND HANDEL'S BLOCK, 7-9 Stockbridge St

GUNN AND HUBBARD BLOCKS, 463-477 State St

HAMPDEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Elm St

HAMPDEN SAVINGS BANK, 1665 Main St

HAYNES HOTEL, 1386-1402 Main St

HENKING HOTEL AND CAFE, 15-21 Lyman St

HIBERNIAN BLOCK, 345-349 Worthington St

Images of the Pioneer Valley

KENNEDY-WORTHINGTON BLOCKS, 1585 Main &
166-190 Worthington St
MAPLE-UNION CORNERS, 77, 83, 76-78, 80-84 Maple
MASONIC TEMPLE, 339-341 State St
MCINTOSH BUILDING, 158-164 Chestnut St
MCKINNEY BUILDING, 1121-1127 Main St
MCKNIGHT HISTORIC DISTRICT, Penn Central, State, the
Armory, Campus Place & Dartmouth
MEMORIAL SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main & Plain-
field St
MEMORIAL SQUARE LIBRARY, Plainfield St
1767 MILESTONES
MILLS-STEBBINS VILLA, 3 Crescent St
MILTON-BRADLEY COMPANY, Park, Cross & Willow
MORGAN BLOCK, 313-333 Bridge St
MUNICIPAL GROUP STREET LIGHTS
OLMSTED-HIXON-ALBION BLOCK, 1645-1659 Main St
PATTON AND LOOMIS BLOCK, 1628-1640 Main St
PATTON BUILDING, 15-19 Hampden St
PRODUCE EXCHANGE BUILDING, 194-206 Chestnut &
115-125 Lyman St
QUADRANGLE-MATTOON STREET, 11, 25, 29, 31 Mattoon St
QUADRANGLE-MATTOON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT,
Chestnut, State, Mattoon, Edwards, Elliott & Salem
RADDING BUILDING, 143-147 State St
REPUBLICAN BLOCK, 1365 Main St
SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX MEMORIAL
CHURCH, 8 Plainfield St
SANDERSON THEATER, 1676-1708 Main St
SMITH CARRIAGE COMPANY DISTRICT, Main, Peabody,
Willow & Park
SMITH'S BUILDING, 201-207 Worthington St
SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 45 Maple St
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE,
Armory Square
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT COURT, 1600 E. Columbus Avenue
SPRINGFIELD FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,
195 State St
SPRINGFIELD RAILWAY-TROLLEY BARN, 2257 Main St
SPRINGFIELD STEAM POWER COMPANY BLOCK, 51-59
Taylor St
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Howard St & E. Columbus Avenue
STACY BUILDING, 41-43 Taylor St
STATE ARMORY, 29 Howard St
STEARNS BUILDING, 289-309 Bridge St
TRINITY BLOCK, 266-284 Bridge St
UNION TRUST COMPANY BUILDING, 1351 Main St
UNITED ELECTRIC COMPANY BUILDING, 73 State St



UPPER WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT, Worthington, Federal, Summit & Armory

WALKER BUILDING, 1228-1244 Main St

WASON-SPRINGFIELD POWER CO. BUILDING, 27-43 Lyman & 26-50 Taylor

WATER SHOPS ARMORY, 1 Allen St

WCA BOARDING HOUSE, 19 Bliss St

WELLS BLOCK, 250-264 Worthington St

WHITCOMB WAREHOUSE, 32-34 Hampden St

WILLY'S OVERLAND BLOCK, 151-157 Chestnut & 10-20 Winter

WINCHESTER SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, State & Wilbraham

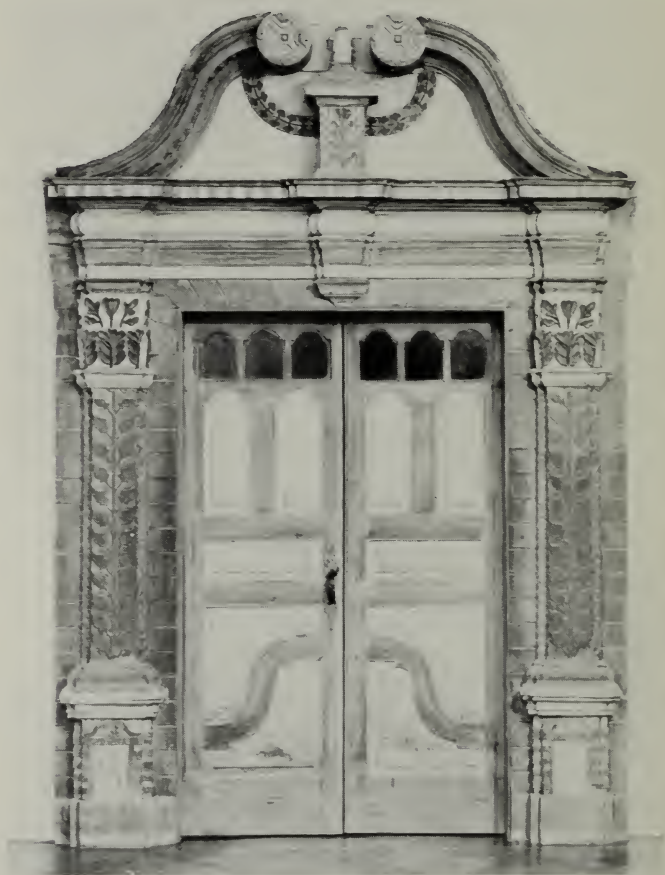
WORTHY HOTEL, 1571 Main

WARE

OTIS COMPANY MILL BUILDING #1, East Main St

WEST SPRINGFIELD

JOSIAH DAY HOUSE, 70 Park St



WESTFIELD

LANDLORD FOWLER TAVERN, 171 Main St

OCTAGON HOUSE, 28 King St

STATE NORMAL TRAINING SCHOOL, Washington St

WESTFIELD MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 59 Court St

WILBRAHAM

ACADEMY HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main to Faculty St &
Mountain Rd.

WILLIAMSBURG

HAYDENVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, High, Kingsley

WILLIAMSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, North Main,
East Main, Williams & Buttonshop Rd

LOCAL HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

In addition to the many historic properties which have been formally recognized as significant (via the National Register process), there are countless other valuable, historic buildings on the streets of every town in the Valley. Many are rich, ornate, “high style” examples of the architects’ and craftsmen’s art, while others — just as important — are simpler and less pretentious, reflecting more limited circumstances or a more rural environment.

Many historically or architecturally distinguished buildings also serve as repositories for local historical collections, memorabilia or antiques of all sorts. Most towns in the Valley have organizations, such as historical societies, which maintain museums dedicated to local history. These collections are generally open to the public for guided tours, presentations or displays.

Buildings other than official historical museums may also harbor historic information and artifacts. Collections of interest to genealogical researchers, history buffs or persons delving into the past of their old home are often housed in the town hall, library or other public building.

History is truly “all around us”, and a closer look at your neighborhood, town or region will reveal a wealth of fascinating structures and artifacts.

AGAWAM

CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE, 663 Main St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Caretaker (413) 786-9421

Fine example of Georgian architecture (1805) believed to have been designed by the famous New England architect, Asher Benjamin. Beautifully detailed interior rooms are furnished with many pieces of authentic furniture.



Images of the Pioneer Valley

AMHERST

THE DICKINSON HOMESTEAD, 280 Main St

May 1-Sept 30 on Tues & Fri; Oct through Apr, Tues only.
Tours at 3, 3:45 and 4:30 pm by appointment only. Admission charge.

Contact: Public Affairs Office, Amherst College (413) 542-2321

Birthplace of Emily Dickinson, 19th century poet, born 1830, died 1886. Period furnishings and some Dickinson mementoes.

STRONG HOUSE MUSEUM, 67 Amity St

Open June-Aug, Tues & Fri, 1-4 pm. Admission charge.

Contact: Ann May, Curator (413) 253-2678

Built by Nehemiah Strong in 1744. The museum exhibits ten rooms furnished with period furniture, china, art objects, costumes, Revolutionary and Civil War relics, and farm and industrial artifacts. 18th century garden.

BELCHERTOWN

STONE HOUSE MUSEUM, Maple St

May 15-Oct 15, Wed & Sat, 2-5 pm & by appointment.

Admission charge.

Contact: Helen Lister (413) 323-7502

1827 dwelling constructed of native fieldstone. Contains collection of locally owned 18th and 19th century furnishings, china, pewter and over 30 "Rogers Groups" statuettes. Fieldstone barn (built in 1920s with funds from Henry Ford) houses collection of locally produced vehicles.



BLANDFORD

HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Main St (Rt 23) and North St
Memorial Day, Labor Day & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Hap Bush (413) 848-2787

The museum is located in Blandford's first schoolhouse (c. 1755). One special room exhibits furniture, pictures and other relics saved from the demolished Watson House. Also mementoes of early industries in town.

Local Historical Collections

BRIMFIELD

SHERMAN ROOM, BRIMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY, Rt 20
Room is staffed on Wed only; library is open TWThSa from
2:30-5:30 pm, W & Sa, 7:30-9 pm; closed Tues in Jan, Feb &
March. Donations welcome.

Contact: Mrs. Robertson, Librarian (413) 245-3518

Small documentary museum with a few artifacts, historical and
geneological records. Of special note are oil paintings by local ar-
tists and photographs made from c. 1890 glass plate negatives.

CHESTER

CHESTER MUSEUM, School St (2nd floor of old high school)
May 30-Sept 1, Wed, 7-9 pm, Sat & Sun 1-4 pm. Donations
welcome.

Contact: Edwin Schlossberg (413) 354-6541

Photographs, artifacts and memorabilia donated by Chester resi-
dents. Two permanent exhibits on minerals, rare stones and min-
ing in the Chester area. Summer exhibition series on various
topics.

CHESTERFIELD

EDWARDS MEMORIAL MUSEUM, North Rd, Chesterfield
Center

June-Sept, Sat, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Ruth Z. Temple, Curator (413) 296-4759

Local historical objects and documents. Household and farm
tools, vintage clothing, embroidery and quilts.

CHICOPEE

EDWARD BELLAMY HOUSE, 91-93 Church St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Stephen Jendrysik (413) 594-6496

Birthplace of Edward Bellamy, world-famous author of "Looking
Backward". Historical restoration of architecturally significant
Greek Revival structure. Period furnishings and Bellamy memora-
bilias.

CUMMINGTON

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT HOMESTEAD, Bryant Rd (off
Cummington Rd)

June 15-Oct 15, Sat, Sun & holidays, 1-5 pm. Admission
charge.

Contact: Bruce Harrison (413) 634-2244

Birthplace and home of famous American poet ("Thanatopsis").
Furnished with Bryant's own belongings.

KINGMAN TAVERN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, Main St,
Cummington Village

July & Aug, Sat, 2-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Thelma Whiting (413) 634-5312 or Mildred Bates
(413) 634-8866

The town's first post office, and also once a tavern, is now a
museum overflowing with artifacts from Cummington's past.
Each room has a different theme: Tavern Room, Ladies' Parlor,
Doctor's office, Sewing Room, Children's Playroom. Especially
impressive is the authentic, well-stocked, re-creation of the T.O.
Hamlen General Store.

Images of the Pioneer Valley

EASTHAMPTON

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOUSE, 7 Holyoke St (Rt 141)
Apr-Dec, Sun, 3-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Dorothy Miller (413) 527-4417

Large (14 rooms) completely furnished house museum. Much Victorian-era furniture. Interesting displays of period clothing, military memorabilia and artifacts relating to Easthampton's button industry.

EAST LONGMEADOW

HISTORICAL HEADQUARTERS/MUSEUM, 25 Maple St
Open 1st Sun, May-Dec, 2-4 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Jeanne P. Goodlatte (413) 525-2354

Period furnishings, costumes and artifacts. Exhibits of brownstone industry, and old-time kitchen utensils. Bicentennial Quilt features 42 historic buildings and scenes.

GOSHEN

GOSHEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, Main St. (Rt 9)
July & Aug, Sun, 2-4 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Stephen Mollison (413) 268-3241

Old chapel building houses small but varied collection of Goshen artifacts.

GRANVILLE



MABEL ROOT ROOM, GRANVILLE LIBRARY, Main St and Granby Rd

Wed & Sat, 2-5 pm & by appointment; closed during winter. Donations welcome.

Contact: Librarian (413) 357-8531

Richardsonian Romanesque-style library was built in 1900 through efforts of 13 members of Women's Library Club. Displays of local antiques (dolls, old glass) and memorabilia, the town's Bicentennial quilt, and an extensive collection of miniatures.

GRANBY

GRANBY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, Town House,
Granby Common

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Isabel Mondor (413) 536-4169.

Old schoolhouse built in 1822 from timbers originally a part of the old Meeting House. Contents include memorials, books, pictures, documents, curios, geological and Natural History specimens. Also antique furniture and articles of household use.

HADLEY

HADLEY FARM MUSEUM,

Junction Rt 9 and 47

May 15-Oct 15, Tues-Sat,

10 am-4:30 pm; Sun.,

1:30-4:30 pm. Donations
welcome.

Contact: George L. Pratt
(413) 584-8279

Collection of farm-related articles dating from the late 1600s to the turn of the century. Collection includes hand tools, carpenter's, blacksmith's and wheelwright's tools, plows, harrows, looms, spinning wheels and much more. Also many vehicles.



HADLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., Goodwin Memorial
Library, Middle St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Dorothy M. Russell (413) 584-8969 or Librarians (413)
584-7451

Artifacts, memorabilia and pictures of former residents of Hadley from Indian times to the present.

Images of the Pioneer Valley

PORTER PHELPS HUNTINGTON HOUSE, 130 River Dr
May 14-Oct 15, Sat-Wed, 1-4:30 pm. Admission charge.
Contact: Susan J. Lisk, Curator (413) 584-4699

Built in 1752 by Moses Porter on a tract of land known as "Forty Acres and Its Skirts", this was the first house built outside the Hadley stockade. The house was enlarged and refined in 1770. Since 1799 there have been no structural changes. The objects in the house are not a collection — they are a family accumulation of ten successive generations.

HAMPDEN

ACADEMY HALL MUSEUM (HAMPDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY), 616 Main St

Open 4th Sun, June-Oct, 2-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Beryle Doten (413) 566-3466

This Grecian-pillared building was constructed in 1850. Collections include fine examples of Colonial (1790) needlework, 19th and 20th century clothing, early household and farm tools. Also diaries and military items from Revolutionary and Civil Wars.



THORNTON W. BURGESS HOUSE, Laughing Brook Education Center, 789 Main St

Apr 1-Nov 1, Tues-Sun, 10 am-3 pm; Nov 1-Mar 31, weekends only, 11 am-3 pm. Admission includes entry to both House and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Contact: Lisa Carpenter (413) 566-8034

Former home of noted children's author, Thornton W. Burgess, who wrote 70 books and 16,000 bedtime stories about wildlife. Oldest house (c. 1780) in the village of Hampden. Fine example of early post and beam construction. Furnished with early 1900 furniture and many colonial era items.

HATFIELD

HATFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM, Public Library, 39 Main St

Fri, 7-9 pm except Jan & Feb. Donations welcome.

Contact: Robert Sawicki (413) 247-5236

Extensive collection of memorabilia from Hatfield and surrounding towns. Items of everyday use (furniture, china, quilts, clothing, jewelry), musical instruments, old paintings, ledgers and diaries of early settlers, fossils and Indian artifacts.

HOLYOKE

WISTARIAHURST,

238 Cabot St

Tues-Sat, 1-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Marie S. Quirk,

Director (413) 536-6771

Home of William Skinner, founder of Skinner Silk Mills in Holyoke. The Skinner family was important to both the cultural and industrial life of the city. Noteworthy features of the museum include a leather "papered" room, the marble Music Hall, Tiffany peacock window and a variety of decorative woods and plasterwork.



HUNTINGTON

NORWICH BRIDGE SCHOOLHOUSE, Worthington (Rt 112) and Littleville Rds

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Beverly Marotte (413) 667-3003 or Grace Wheeler (413) 667-3438

This c. 1825 one-room schoolhouse serves as a museum and local geneological library. Interesting architectural details include a rounded ceiling and meandering stencil border.

LONGMEADOW

STORRS HOUSE, 697 Longmeadow St

Wed & Thurs, 9 am-Noon; tours by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Curator (413) 567-3600

Home of the Longmeadow Historical Society. Built in 1785, the house has eight rooms furnished with art, artifacts and furniture from early town families.

MIDDLEFIELD

MIDDLEFIELD HISTORICAL MUSEUM, Old Town Hall, Main St

June-Labor Day, Sun, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Marjorie Batorski (413) 623-8904

Contains artifacts, diaries, newspaper articles, old photographs, tools, and a good collection of 18th and 19th century clothing; some small pieces of antique furniture.

MONSON

G.A.R HALL (MARCUS KEEP POST #155), Memorial Town Hall, Main St

Open weekdays by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Selectmen's Office (413) 267-5510

Impressive collection of military articles (swords, uniforms, currency, photos) from Civil War and World Wars I & II. Memorial Hall, itself, — a massive, granite Romanesque structure — was built by the public-spirited citizens of 1885 to honor their patriot soldiers.

Images of the Pioneer Valley

MONTGOMERY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM (OLD TOWN HOUSE),
Main Rd

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Gregory Smith (413) 862-3246

Built in 1849, one of 3 Greek Revival buildings which form the small town center. Donated artifacts: salt bags, old clothing, farm implements, books, maps.

NORTHAMPTON

DAMON HOUSE, 46 Bridge St

Houses open Wed, Sat & Sun, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Office open Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm. Admission. (Group rates available).

Contact: Northampton Historical Society (413) 584-6011

Built in 1813 by noted architect Isaac Damon for his own use. Society's considerable collection of 19th century dresses, bonnets, accessories and textiles are housed here. Caleb Strong room includes mementoes of Massachusetts' 11-term governor, including Hadley-type dower chest of his daughter, Sarah Strong.



PARSONS HOUSE, 58 Bridge St

Open as above. Admission charge.

Contact: Northampton Historical Society (413) 584-6011

C. 1728 house has undergone many alterations over the years. Interesting exhibit traces these architectural changes. 1840s parlor scene, featuring 2nd piano made in Northampton, recreates courting of Mary Wright by Theodore Bliss.

SHEPHERD HOUSE, 66 Bridge St

Open as above. Admission charge.

Contact: Northampton Historical Society, (413) 584-6011

Since its construction in 1796 the house has been lived in continuously by one family. Its collection of artifacts from many generations (including mementoes from travel abroad), chronicles one family's changing tastes. C. 1825 barn has an Indian exhibit and collection of signs and weather vanes.

CALVIN COOLIDGE MEMORIAL ROOM, Forbes Library, 20 West St

Mon-Sat, 9-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lawrence Wikander (413) 584-8300 or Blaise Bisailon (413) 584-8399

Unofficial Presidential Library containing manuscripts and memorabilia (both personal and political) of 30th President of the United States.

CLAPP HOUSE, 148 South St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Caroline Brandt (413) 584-0569

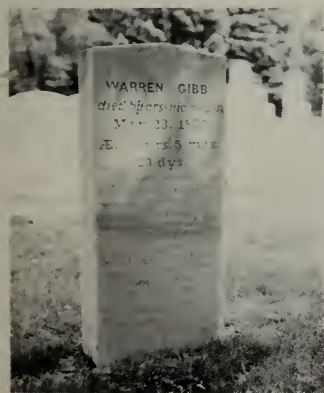
The house, now owned by the local D.A.R., is said by some to have been built in 1713. Others date the building to 1760. 18th century antique furnishings throughout house.

FLORENCE CIVIC AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, Park St, Florence

Tues, 10 am-Noon & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Francis LaMountain (413) 584-9558

Florence memorabilia, especially documents and artifacts pertaining to Florence Corticella Silk Mills.



PELHAM

PELHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM,

Pelham Rd & Rt 202

June-Sept, Sun, 1:30-4:30 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Louise Partridge (413) 253-3800

Building is former Congregational Church, built in 1839. Museum houses famed "Poison Oyster Tombstone", plus reminders of Pelham's history: maps, photographs, 18th and 19th century tools.

PLAINFIELD

SHAW-HUDSON HOUSE MUSEUM & PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Main (Rt 116) & Central St

Open by appointment. Admission charge.

Contact: Frederick Tirrell (413) 634-5397

This 1833 structure contains a 19th century doctor's office preserved exactly as it was when Dr. Shaw practiced here. The upper floor houses the collections and displays of the Plainfield Historical Society.

Images of the Pioneer Valley

SOUTH HADLEY

FIRE HOUSE MUSEUM, 3 North Main St

June-Oct, Sun, 1:30-4:30 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: James B. Allen (413) 532-1879 or Irene Cronin (413) 536-3057

Collection of early fire fighting equipment. Also South Hadley and national memorabilia: old books, documents and postcards.

JOSEPH A. SKINNER MUSEUM, 35 Woodbridge St

May-Oct, Wed & Sun, 2-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Director (413) 538-2416

The museum houses the collection of Joseph Allen Skinner, son of Holyoke silk mill magnate William Skinner. It includes early American furnishings and decorative arts, tools, native American artifacts, carriages and collection of birds native to Massachusetts. The museum building was constructed in 1846 as the First Congregational Church for the town of Prescott. It was moved to its present site in the 1930s when Prescott was dismantled and flooded to create the Quabbin Reservoir.

SOUTHAMPTON

CLARK-CHAPMAN HOUSE, College Hwy (Rt 10)

July 4th & 1st Sat in Aug, 1-4 pm & by appointment.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Hendrick, Curators (413) 527-3933

Headquarters of Southampton Historical Society. 19th century home (1827) filled with period furnishings, local photographs and Southampton memorabilia.

OLD NORTH SCHOOL HOUSE, Conant Park, College Hwy

July 4th and 1st Sat in Aug, 1-4 pm & by appointment.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Olga Sudnick (413) 527-0236

Restored district school.

SPRINGFIELD

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL, Court Square

Mon-Fri, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; appointments recommended.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Office (413) 737-1411

Old First Church was the first formally organized (1637) congregation in the area. The present Greek Revival structure was designed by Isaac Damon and built in 1819. Beautiful interior and antique furnishings.

INDIAN MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM, 33 Hendee St

Daily, 1-5 pm. Admission charge.

Contact: Office (413) 737-2624

The Indian Motorcycle (it *is* spelled correctly: no "r"!) was the first motorcycle manufactured in the United States. In 1902 George Hendee formed the Hendee Manufacturing Company and began producing these vehicles, which served as a major mode of transportation until the 1940s. Collection includes various models of motorcycles, antique Columbia bicycles, motorized toboggan, etc.

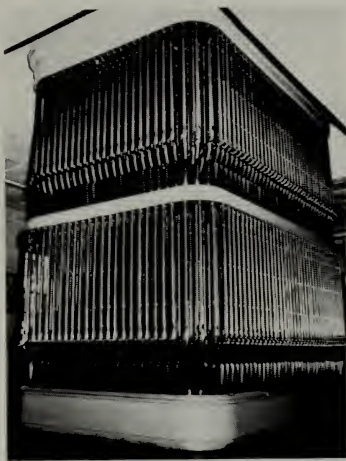
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY MUSEUM, Corner of State & Federal St

Daily, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Larry Lowenthal
(413) 734-6477

From 1794 to 1968 the Springfield Armory was a center for the manufacture of U.S. military small arms. A large weapons museum is housed in the original (1850) main arsenal building. The Organ of Rifles, on display here, inspired Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to write "The Arsenal at Springfield". The Museum contains a sample of every gun made at the Armory, plus rare and historic weapons, posters and costumes.



THE QUADRANGLE, State & Chestnut Sts

Hours vary. Admission charges vary.

Contact: City Library, (413) 739-3080

Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, (413) 732-3080

George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum (413)
733-4214

Springfield Fine Arts Museum, (413) 732-6092

Springfield Science Museum, (413) 732-4317

Organized in 1857 this educational and cultural center offers a concentration of architecturally distinctive historic museum buildings with diverse collections.

WARE

WARE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Church St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Mary Baxter (413) 967-6634

Small collection of books, maps and documents detailing Ware's past. Clothing and furniture displays.

WEST SPRINGFIELD



JOSIAH DAY HOUSE,

70 Park St

Mid-June to mid-Oct, Sat & Sun, 1-5 pm & by appointment. Admission charge.

Contact: Ida J. Hubbell,
Curator (413) 734-6587

Built in 1754 by Josiah Day, this is the only solid brick saltbox house from that period in the country. Occupied by Day descendants until 1902, it is furnished largely with their possessions.

Images of the Pioneer Valley

STORROWTON VILLAGE MUSEUM, Eastern States Exposition Grounds.

June-Sept, 11:30 am-4 pm; closed Mon. Admission charge.

Contact: June Cook, Director (413) 736-0632

Seven historic buildings collected from N.E. area by Helen Storrow, 1930-1932. Furnished in authentic style. Childrens' supervised Colonial activities.

EZEKIAL DAY HOUSE, Westfield St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Park & Recreation Dept (413) 781-7550

Reconstruction. Articles found in "archeological dig" nearby.

WESTFIELD

DEWEY HOUSE (WESTERN HAMPDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY), 87 South Maple St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Barbara Bush, (413) 562-3657 or Helen Wolcott, (413) 568-8539

C. 1735 house restored to its original period. Furnished as an early farmhouse. Historical Society offers educational tours for school children and architectural students.

EDWIN SMITH HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WESTFIELD

ATHENAEUM, 6 Elm St

MWF & Sa, 1-5 pm; closed during summer months. Donations welcome.

Contact: Harold Maschin, Curator (413) 568-7833

Pioneer and Colonial displays, plus Indian relics. Also collections relating to whip, bicycle, and cigar industries.

WESTHAMPTON

WESTHAMPTON BLACKSMITH SHOP, Stage Rd (near church)

June-Sept, Sun 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Urena Blakesley (413) 527-2683

Restored early 19th century blacksmith shop. Houses collection of local items: farm machinery and tools, sleighs, kitchen utensils, early wedding gowns.

WILBRAHAM

OLD MEETING HOUSE, Main St

Open 1st Sun; closed Jan-Mar. Donations welcome.

Contact: Jerry Keating (413) 596-6260

1793 Methodist meeting house. House appointed in 1850's style. Various displays and collections.

WILLIAMSBURG

WILLIAMSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Main St

Memorial Day to Oct, Sun, 2-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Phyllis Beals (413) 268-7836

Structure is the Old Town Hall, built in 1841. Collection is "a little bit of everything". Striking display of old dresses as well as catalogs and items associated with the Brass industry. Memorabilia of the Great Flood of 1874 which wiped out much of Mill River Valley.

Local Historical Collections

OLD HILL GRIST MILL FARM MUSEUM, Mill St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lewis Black (413) 268-7767 or David West (413) 268-7645

Structure was originally a grist mill. Museum houses collection of farm tools plus old fire department water wagon and pumper.

WORTHINGTON

RIVERSIDE-CAPEN SCHOOLHOUSE, Rt 112, Christian Hollow

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lois Brown (413) 238-7761 or Elizabeth Payne (413) 238-7756

The only one-room school of the town's 12 original ones now preserved. Used as headquarters for Worthington Historical Society. Local artifacts.



March 1984

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